

Alabama WIC Program: Produce Mapping(Linking) Information

The Alabama WIC Program is requiring retailers to map/link produce to an Alabama WIC-approved Price Look-Up (PLU) code. This means that any WIC-approved fresh fruit or vegetable without an International Federation of Produce Standards (IFPS)-approved PLU must be mapped/linked to an IFPS-approved PLU **prior to** your store's rollout.

Examples include:

- Produce with a UPC bar code (e.g. prepackaged loose fruits such as blueberries or strawberries)
- A store-assigned non-IFPS PLU (e.g. cut pineapple or cantaloupe processed and packaged at your store)
- Generic IFPS approved PLU (i.e. using a generic "any fruit" or "any vegetable" PLU instead of the specific IFPS PLU assigned such as 4011 for bananas)

The Alabama Approved Product List (APL) contains only Alabama IFPS-approved PLUs. If UPCs for produce or store-assigned PLUs are scanned without having been mapped/linked, the APL will not identify those products as WIC-approved food items and the WIC customer will not be able to make a produce purchase using their eWIC card.

Produce already using an IFPS PLU will continue to use that PLU. There is no need to map/link since the APL will recognize it. However, if the produce in question is using a generic "any fruit" or "any vegetable" IFPS PLU, you will need to map it to the closest specific IFPS PLU. **Do not map others foods or non-food items to PLUs.**

Items containing more than a single type of produce may be mapped to an IFPS-approved PLU of one of the produce items in the mix. For example, a container of cut-up melons (contains a mixture of watermelon, cantaloupe, and honeydew) can be mapped to 4049 for cantaloupe.

Store Responsibility:

- Map/link all required fresh fruits and vegetables.
- Contact your Electronic Cash Register (ECR) Provider for specific instructions on how to map/link produce as every ECR is different.
- Ensure store personnel are trained to address issues that might occur.

Question about eWIC?

The Alabama WIC Program is here to make the transition to eWIC as easy as possible. Should you have any questions about eWIC, please send them to the following email address:

alvendowic@adph.state.al.us.

eWIC Updates

Additional information about eWIC can be found by visiting the Alabama eWIC page at: <http://www.alabamapublichealth.gov/wic/ewic-vendors.html> and the IFPS website at <https://www.ifpsglobal.com/>.

